THE MATERIAL GIRL SHOWS HER VULNERABLE SIDE

MADONNA'S FIRST ALBUM IN FOUR YEARS GETS LISTENERS INTO THE GROOVE: REVIEW PAGE 15

VANCOUVER metro®

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

News worth sharing.

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Child abductor Randall Hopley is led out of the Cranbrook courthouse on Sept. 14. BILL GRAVELAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man pleads guilty to abducting boy last fall

Confession. Randall Hopley admits to two of the three charges against him via video link in court Monday

The man charged with the abduction of a three-year-old boy from his home in southeast B.C. last fall has suddenly pleaded guilty to two of the three charges against him.

In what was to be a hearing to fix a court date on Monday, Randall Hopley, 46, admitted to abduction of a person under 14 and break-and-enter with intent to commit an indictable offence.

Hopley, who appeared in court via video link, pleaded not guilty to a charge of kidnapping and the Crown is expected to stay that charge.

Hopley was accused of taking three-year-old Kienan Hebert from his home in Sparwood last September, setting off a Canada-wide manhunt.

The Amber Alert brought in tips from the public right across the country.

Four days later, the boy was returned to the same home he was taken from, apparently unharmed, both physically and emotionally.

Hopley was arrested a few days later after police tracked him to an abandoned cabin on Crowsnest Lake, Alta., just across the border from the B.C. town where the boy lived.

A dog handler was alerted to the possible presence of someone inside one of the cabins, said RCMP Insp. Brendan Fitzpatrick. Hopley bolted. But he was quickly captured, marking the end to an intense week-long drama.

A sentencing hearing for Hopley will be held in July in Cranbrook. His lawyer has asked for a pre-sentence report before the hearing.

Documents released after his arrest showed that Hopley was convicted in 1985 of sexually assaulting a five-year-old boy and a psychiatric report leading up to his prison release warned he could offend again. He was sentenced to two years in prison. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dix busted on SkyTrain

NDP leader caught riding without proof of purchase but gets off with a warning instead of a fine

PAGE 4

Are you a ball of knots?

Perhaps stress is aggravating your chronic injuries

PAGE 19

LITERACY AND LIFELONG LEARNING

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." – ***Gandhi***

Imagine if you couldn't make sense of a simple street sign, read a prescription label or share a bedtime story with your child. For some Canadians all they can do is imagine because they lack the literacy and essential skills that many of us take for granted.

Statistics show that four out of 10 adult Canadians, age 16 to 65 — representing nine million Canadians — struggle with low literacy. They fall below level 3 (high school completion) on the prose literacy scale. It's a sad statistic but true. The good news is that there are hundreds of volunteer organizations across Canada that offer adult learners the opportunity develop their literacy skills and their confidence.

ABC Life Literacy Canada is a non-profit organization that inspires Canadians to increase their literacy skills, and offers resources and contacts for anyone interested in improving everything from reading and writing to math and computer skills. "We can connect adult learners with local literacy organizations for training in a wide range of areas," says Margaret Eaton, President of ABC Life Literacy Canada. "We're proud to have partnerships with more than 400 of these organizations across the country."

Organizations such as ABC Life Literacy Canada are dedicated to helping Canadians build essential skills to be successful in the workforce but also in life. "People want to increase their skills for a number of reasons, not only to find better jobs, but also to play a more active role at home, whether it's to gain a better understanding of household finances, help their children with homework or read a storybook to their grandchildren," says Eaton.

GOING BEYOND THE THREE RS

Although there is, and will always be, a focus on learning the three Rs (reading, writing and arithmetic), a new requirement has emerged — the need for more computer-literate workers.

"We've reached the end of many of the high-wage, low-literacy jobs in heavy industry and manufacturing," says Eaton. "For many businesses it's the knowledge-based jobs that will carry their companies in the future. These jobs require higher levels of understanding, writing and communicating."

LITERACY: A LIFELONG JOURNEY

For Eaton the power of literacy is clear. "Literacy is a wonderful tool that opens up a world of opportunities for individuals and allows them to engage fully and confidently in life's activities — whatever they might be. And learning is a lifelong journey that should never end."

For more information, visit ***abclifeliteracy.ca***

A SPECIAL WEEK TO CELEBRATE LEARNING

This year, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO has declared March 24 to April 1, 2012 as (International Adult Learners' Week). Celebrated in Canada since 2002, International Adult Learners' Week is a celebration of the importance of lifelong learning and adult literacy.

LITERACY AND THE ECONOMY: HOW DOES ONE IMPACT THE OTHER?

Craig Alexander, Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist for TD Bank Financial Group, is a strong advocate for improving literacy levels in Canada. He is also a board member of ABC Life Literacy Canada, a national non-profit organization that inspires Canadians to increase their literacy skills.

Recently, Alexander talked about literacy and the Canadian economy. According to Alexander, the performance of an economy is driven by two factors: first, the size and skills of its labour force; and second, the ability of its economy to innovate through productivity improvements. Literacy is the cornerstone of skills development; it is the foundation upon which other skills are built.

Alexander estimates that weak literacy skills could be costing the Canadian economy as much as $80 billion in lost economic opportunity. Improved literacy skills could create thousands of jobs and would materially help to reduce poverty in Canada.

WHAT CAN BUSINESSES DO?

"Businesses should be engaged in promoting literacy skills development," says Alexander. "This could be done, for example, by helping to fund skills training for employees. However, studies have shown that it is not the cost that is the main deterrent to skills development. In many cases, the individuals needing additional training have difficulty balancing work-life responsibilities."

Steel manufacturer ArcelorMittal Dofasco dealt with the work-life balance issue in a unique way. The company established an essential skills training program that was free to employees, who were also paid for half their time in the classroom. Employees enrolled in 12-class sessions where they were taught literacy, basic computing, keyboarding and business writing.

The most recent mass survey — the 2003 International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey (IALSS) published by Statistics Canada — found that 48 per cent of adult Canadians don't have the necessary literacy skills to achieve their full potential at work, at home and in the community.

SURVEY SAYS...

FROM THE RECENT METROPOLITAN PANEL SURVEY ABOUT LITERACY:

ALMOST 50 PER CENT OF RESPONDENTS SAY THAT THEY HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANY TRAINING OR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE PAST YEAR

ONL
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Metropolitan Panel

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ABC LIFE LITERACY CANADA: TRANSFORMING LIVES

ABC Life Literacy Canada has a clear vision — a Canada where everyone has the skills they need to live a fully engaged life. It's this vision that the national non-profit and its many supporters and ambassadors have been working tirelessly towards for more than 20 years.

With a focus on inspiring Canadians to increase their literacy skills, the national non-profit organization focuses its efforts on moving the cause forward. The organization connects and mobilizes business, unions, government, communities and individuals to support lifelong learning through various programs, communications and partnerships.

SUPPORTING ADULT LEARNERS WITH RESOURCES ACROSS CANADA

Visitors to the ABC Life Literacy Canada website (abclifeliteracy.ca) will find a list of programs, useful resources and links, such as LEARN, that help adult learners and their families connect with literacy organizations in their area. LEARN, Canada's first national literacy campaign, has been running successfully since 1994. Thanks to The Yellow Pages Group™, LEARN has assisted learners coast-to-coast in seeking help to improve their literacy skills.

MAKING FAMOUS CANADIAN AUTHORS ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE

Adult learners who want to enjoy a great read from a best-selling Canadian author can check out Good Reads®. Through this program, learners can enjoy short books (10,000 to 12,000 words, about 100 pages), with easy-to-understand vocabulary and structure. Good Reads encourage reading practice, develop reading skills, and increase reading confidence. The list includes works of fiction from best-selling authors like Joy Fielding. There are also non-fiction choices including, *Easy Money,* written by financial literacy expert and TV star Gail Vaz-Oxlade.

HONOURING EXCELLENCE IN ADULT LITERACY

Each year, ABC Life Literacy Canada celebrates the achievements of exceptional learners and practitioners with four annual awards to honour excellence in the areas of journalism, learning centres, workplace literacy and corporate commitment.

For more information about ABC Life Literacy Canada, please visit ***abclifeliteracy.ca***

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Held annually on Jan. 27, Family Literacy Day was developed by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 to celebrate adults and children reading and learning together, and to encourage Canadians to spend at least 15 minutes enjoying a learning activity as a family every day.

HELPING ADULT LEARNERS MOVE ON

For the staff at Alexandra Park Neighbourhood Learning Centre (APNLC), it's all about helping adult learners move on to "the next step."

APNLC helps learners develop skills in the areas of reading, writing, numeracy, digital technology, self-management and self-direction, and working with others. According to intake worker Katie McLeod, the support doesn't end there. "We also support learners in the process of applying for college and university programs, post-secondary and apprenticeship programs, volunteer positions, and various employment opportunities."

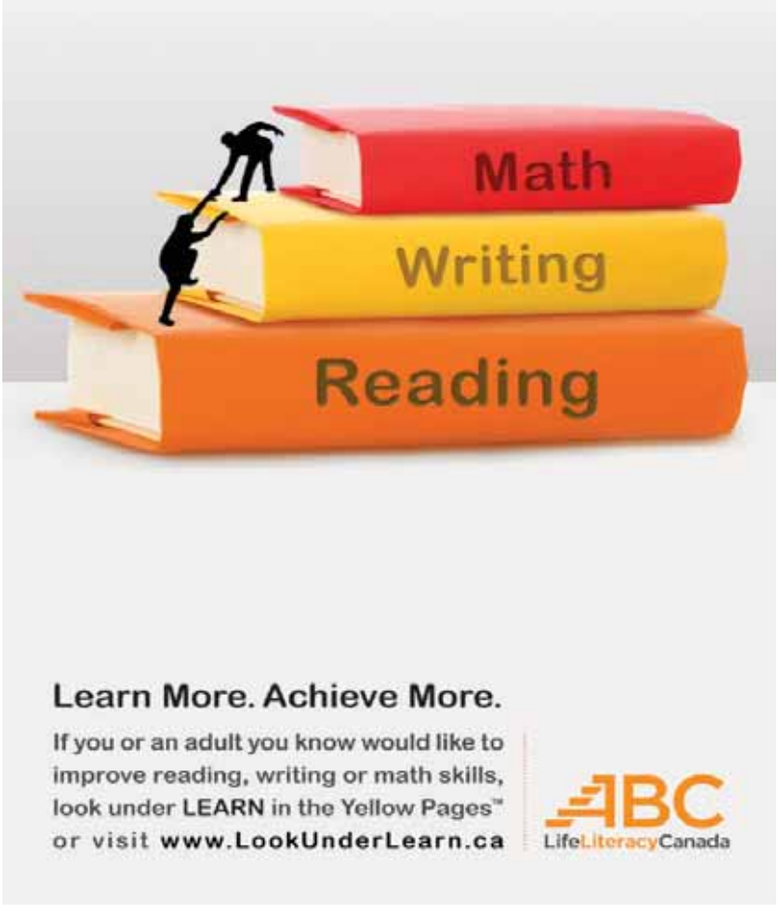
As an intake worker at APNLC, McLeod is the first person new learners meet when they start their programs. "I'm always struck by how incredibly strong they are and how determined to overcome the barriers they've faced and continue to face," she says.

"For many learners, an adult literacy program is the first place where they feel their innate talents and interests are recognized and encouraged to flourish. It may be the first time they feel excited about learning. Having the opportunity to work in this environment with these people has enriched my life in so many ways," McLeod says. "The adult learners I've met in our program have inspired me to pursue my own path of lifelong learning."

One of the adult learners she has been working with over the past few months is Anne Comrie, who immigrated to Canada from Jamaica 30 years ago. Comrie's goal in taking the literacy program at APNLC is to enhance her skills so she can pursue a college diploma. "The program offers so much," she says. "The support I receive from Katie and others at the centre is helping me enhance my reading, writing and comprehension skills and my computer skills. There are also Money Matters sessions that give valuable advice on how to manage my money." With everything she's learning, Comrie feels more confident about her skills and her prospects for the future.

HOW TO CELEBRATE

Do you want to improve your reading, writing or math skills? Contact Decoda Literacy Solutions to find a free literacy program. Visit www.decoda.ca or call 604-681-4199.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Pipeline rally marks anniversary of Exxon oil spill

More than a thousand people crowded around the Vancouver Art Gallery at noon Monday to rally against possible oil-tanker expansion on the West Coast. On the anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, representatives from Heiltsuk and T'sleil Waututh First Nations, ForestEthics, Wilderness Committee, Greenpeace and other organizations rallied against the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline, which would connect Alberta's oilsands to the B.C. coast. KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

Liberal MLA jumps ship

John van Dongen. Abbotsford South representative resigns from the BC Liberal Party after 17 years

MATT KIELTYKA
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John van Dongen, a Liberal MLA disgraced from cabinet in 2009, has become the first sitting B.C. Conservative since 1979.

The Abbotsford South representative, with the B.C. Liberal Party for 17 years, made the shocking announcement Monday in the legislature.

"Every week constituents question government actions and issues that I am not able to defend," he said to the Speaker. "I rise because I can no longer carry on with my duties as a member of this government. I have decided to resign as a member of the B.C. Liberal government caucus and I am cancelling my membership with the BC Liberal Party."

Van Dongen cites the BC Place naming-rights fiasco, $6 million spent on BC Rail legal fees, and a lack of accountability for crossing the floor.

He becomes the first Conservative — looking to regain relevance under new leader John Cummins — to sit in the legislature since Victor Stephen represented the riding of Oak Bay from 1978 to 1979.

In 2009, van Dongen was forced to resign as the province's solicitor general after his driver's licence was revoked for multiple speeding violations, but he remained MLA for Abbotsford South.

"I am by no means a flawless individual, but have strived for personal and political integrity," he admitted in his speech Monday. "I have always taken ownership of my own shortcomings."

Principle

"John van Dongen is a man of principle and integrity, and I am delighted that he has joined B.C.'s fastest-growing party."
Conservative party Leader John Cummins

The Conservatives are touting van Dongen's switch as a major coup.

According to the most recent Ipsos-Reid poll, the Conservatives — not even on the radar a year ago and with no sitting MLAs — have 16 per cent of the popular vote.

The NDP had 44 per cent of the popular vote and the Liberals stood at 32 per cent.

"(Van Dongen's) experience in the legislature will be invaluable in holding the government to account," said party leader John Cummins in a media statement.

Pricked. VPD officer charged with assault after needle incident

A Vancouver police officer has been charged with assault for allegedly hitting a prisoner in a patrol wagon last August.

Const. Mathew McKinnon had just replaced a wagon driver who had been taken to hospital after being pricked by a needle hidden in the man's clothing while she was searching him, according to the Vancouver Police Department (VPD).

McKinnon and his partner decided to ask the suspect if he had any communicable diseases. It's unclear how the prisoner responded but at some point McKinnon got into the wagon and allegedly assaulted him.

Desk duty

- **The officer charged with assault has been put on desk duty until his trial is over.**

The man was taken to jail and examined by a nurse but required no treatment, according to the VPD.

The Police Complaints Commissioner's office is overseeing an investigation by the VPD Professional Standards Section.

KATE WEBB/METRO

Justice critic

Pursue Bountiful prosecutions: NDP

The NDP's justice critic says it's time to get on with prosecuting people who may be breaking the law in the polygamous community of Bountiful. Leonard Krog says the B.C. government must stop the exploitation of children.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miss Universe

Making her case

A Vancouver woman kicked out of the Miss Universe Canada pageant because she was born a male is urging her supporters to sign an online petition calling for her reinstatement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brothels OK'd. Ruling a 'partial victory' for sex-trade workers: Pivot

Ontario's top court struck down sections of the Criminal Code that ban brothels on Monday, in a decision Vancouver advocates hailed as a partial victory for sex-trade workers.

The ruling came from a five-judge panel, which unanimously agreed that the ban puts prostitutes in danger and violates their Charter rights. It also amended the ban on "living on the avails" of prostitution, to make it illegal only in cases in which sex workers are exploited.

But the panel upheld the ban on soliciting as a reasonable way to protect communities.

Katrina Pacey, Pivot Legal Society's litigation director, said two judges also wanted to strike the soliciting provision because it has a severe impact on sex workers.

"We are very encouraged by the results relating to the bawdy-house provision because it will allow for sex workers to work safely indoors, but we are very discouraged and concerned about the communication law, which will continue to criminalize and place street-level sex workers in conditions of extreme danger and violence," she said.

Pacey added it is likely both sides will appeal.

KATE WEBB/METRO

1 NEWS

Mobile news

Analysts are calling it a "two-horse" race between Apple and Samsung as RIM's sales shrink and the lag time between its releases grows. Scan the code for the story

On the web

Madge's drug reference over the borderline, DJ says

Canadian electronic DJ has entered into a high-profile feud with Madonna, calling the Material Girl an "idiot" after she appeared to glamorize drug use during a recent concert. Get the full story at metronews.ca/video

No mount too high for charity

Taking a hike. Local adventurer takes on epic Everest climb to raise funds to help at-risk youth

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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Steve Curtis is taking charity work to new heights.

The 30-year-old Vancouver CEO set off Monday night for a two-month trek to climb Mount Everest to raise funds for local charity Take a Hike, while inspiring his employees to set goals in both their work and personal lives.

Curtis, the CEO of multi-business conglomerate ZAG Group, said after he was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoma — a rare form of cancer — when he was 25, he was able to "re-evaluate what was important" in his life.

"For me, what really popped up was making my life about others, dedicating myself to giving back," he said.

His company started a charity called Adventure 2 Advance and it has raised more than $30,000 for the Take a Hike program, which helps at-risk youth through adventure-based learning, counselling and community involvement.

Curtis raised the money by climbing Mount Aconcagua — the highest mountain in the Americas — in December 2010 and he's hoping that he'll reach the charity's target of $150,000.

Curtis knows it will be a gruelling trek, so he's been "aggressively" training for almost three months.

"I climb the stairs on my building," he said. "I'll put between 20 and 50 pounds on my backpack. I live on the 40th floor so that's about 10,000 stairs."

He added he's excited to take on this epic adventure that he's been dreaming of since he was a kid.

"The power of dreams can conquer any obstacle," he said.

Steve Curtis is ready for his two-month trek to climb Mount Everest for charity. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

NDP Leader Dix caught on SkyTrain without ticket

B.C. NDP Leader Adrian Dix was caught riding the SkyTrain without proof of valid fare earlier this month, but he got off with a warning instead of the usual $173 fine.

Dix said he had bought a day pass before boarding the Expo Line from his Vancouver-Kingsway constituency on his way downtown, but when transit police came by to check for fares he couldn't produce it.

"I got a warning, so they checked to see if I had ever been stopped before, and I hadn't been, of course. And I've been checked many times and that was the decision they made," he told Metro.

"I don't know if I left it in the machine. You know, it beeps, but sometimes you're in a rush or whatever. But whatever I did, I didn't have the ticket. Thought I did."

He said he takes full responsibility for the incident and is making extra efforts to cement his transit routine so that it doesn't happen again.

Echoes of 2007

- Adrian Dix isn't the only high-profile politician to be caught on the SkyTrain without a valid fare.
- In June 2007, before he was Vancouver's mayor, Gregor Robertson was fined $173 for travelling two zones on a one-zone ticket.
- At the time, Robertson, then the MLA for Vancouver-Fairview, said he planned to dispute the ticket, calling it a disproportionate penalty for a $1 mistake. But he later apologized, saying it was a mistake to challenge the fine, and he took full responsibility for it.

"There is no excuse. I'm responsible," he said.

"It was obviously human error, but still an error, so there it is."

KATE WEBB/METRO

NDP Leader Adrian Dix KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO FILE

Homeless count

Jang hopes more homeless have found shelter

Vancouver Coun. Kerry Jang is optimistic that the number of Vancouver's unsheltered homeless will show a decrease during Tuesday's homeless count.

"We've reduced a lot of hard living on the street. Our focus now is to get the folks from the shelters into permanent housing," Jang said.

Over a period of 24 hours, teams of people will canvas the city, counting and talking with homeless people with the goal of understanding the barriers of obtaining stable housing.

If a major shift from shelter living to permanent housing is not seen, Jang says the city will need to start building more housing units and consider what type of shelter capacity will be needed for the upcoming year.

"We need to make sure we don't inadvertently put people on the street by closing shelters too soon or not having enough capacity."

Last year, 145 people were counted as unsheltered in Vancouver, along with 1,362 staying in emergency shelters and 98 with no fixed address.

KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

Justice system

Court crisis could have been averted: B.C. Civil Liberties Association report

A new report from the B.C. Civil Liberties Association says the Liberals' tough talk on reforming the justice system has been undermined by a decade of cuts.

In Justice Denied, the BCCLA says court-services budgets have been slashed 42 per cent since 2001, yet the province now deals with 15 per cent more cases and imprisons 16 per cent more people.

"How do you explain that to victims (of crime), when the Crown is throwing in the towel on cases they otherwise deem feasible?" asked BCCLA president Robert Holmes.

Holmes said he agrees with the government's assertion that the province's justice system is in crisis.

But unlike his recommendations of increased resources, a province-initiated report is focusing instead on "squeezing" efficiencies out of the strapped system, according to Holmes.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

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NDP leader attacks Conservatives on mounting debt

House of Commons. Newly elected Opposition leader Thomas Mulcair scrappy in question period debut

Thomas Mulcair made his question period debut as NDP leader Monday after a standing ovation from his caucus and compliments from his defeated opponents.

The newly minted Opposition leader showed his scrappy side as he took on the Conservatives for the first time from his new seat in the House of Commons.

He said the government has failed miserably at getting the country back to work and demanded action in Thursday's budget.

"Since the Conservatives came to power, Canada has lost hundreds of thousands of good jobs in the manufacturing sector," Mulcair said.

Newly elected NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair stands in the House of Commons. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heritage Minister James Moore retorted that 600,000 jobs have been created under the Tory watch.

"We will continue to move in that direction in the next budget," Moore said.

Mulcair wasn't buying that.

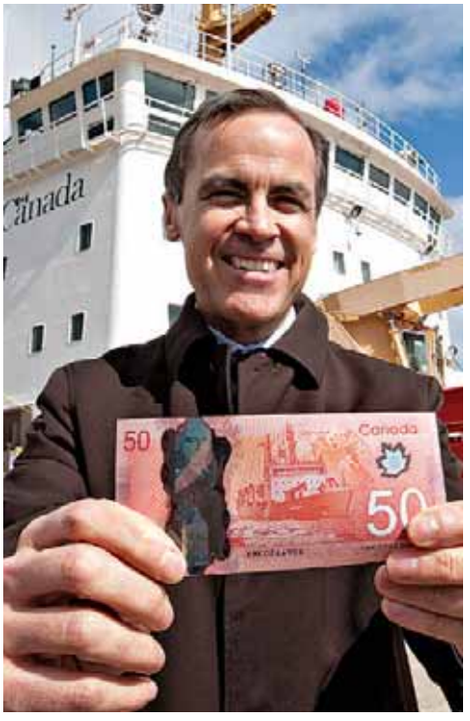
"They are leaving the largest environmental, economic and social debt in our history for future generations," he said.

Mulcair's party greeted him warmly in his first Commons appearance since he came out on top in a seven-person race for the leadership at the party's weekend convention in Toronto. His four MP opponents spoke briefly about the need for unity. Toronto MP Peggy Nash urged the party to "unite behind our leader and future prime minister."

Olivia Chow, widow of former leader Jack Layton, remained pointedly neutral during the campaign, but she dropped that attitude on Monday to praise Mulcair.

"We can be proud to say that New Democrats across Canada elected a strong and experienced leader," Chow said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The $50's newest feature

Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney holds a new $50 bill while standing in front of the Canadian Coast Guard ship Amundsen on Monday in Quebec City. The Amundsen is displayed on the back of the new bank note, made of polymer. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Separation survey?

Quebecers torn on Constitution

Quebecers still have an appetite for independence if they don't get constitutional reform, suggests a Leger Marketing survey.

The new survey found that 44.5 per cent of Quebecers would still support separating from Canada if the Constitution could not be changed enough to satisfy the majority of the province. Nearly 39 per cent said the province should stay in the federation even if no amendments are made.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Troubling U.S. trend

Canuck profiles off-limits to snoops

Labour laws in Canada offer strong protection from employers who ask job seekers for personal information like social media passwords.

Rules in the U.S. are much more lax, lawyers said, citing cases in which hiring managers have asked candidates to turn over their login information as part of the vetting process.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roller derby. League invites gender diversity

Members of Windsor's only female flat-track roller derby league unveiled a new policy Monday stressing the team is open to women who are lesbian, bisexual, transgender, Two-Spirited and intersexual.

When the Border City Brawlers starts its season Saturday at Windsor Arena, it wants women of all shapes, sizes, gender identities and sexual orientations to know they are welcome to join the league.

"We wanted to make sure we had a policy so that the information was out there, so we weren't deterring anybody from getting involved because they weren't sure," said Kate Hargreaves, 23, of Windsor.

The announcement came on the heels of news reports that blond bombshell Jenna Talackova, a 23-year-old transgender woman from Vancouver, was kicked out of the Miss Universe Canada pageant after organizers discovered she had been born male.

Martha Daniels, president of the board of the Windsor Pride Community, is supportive of the league's effort to include all women.

"We're hoping that because they will know now that it is safe or and that it is possible, people will start coming out to be a part of this sport," she said.

She said between five and 10 per cent of the population is considered to be LGBTTIQ, which amounts to about 21,000 people in Windsor.

CINDY KAVANAUGH/METRO IN WINDSOR

Drinking death

Alberta should pass law: Judge

A judge says the Alberta government should pass a law limiting the number of drinks a person can be served in a bar.

The recommendation is in an inquiry report about the death of Ronald Joseph Macaulay, who died in November 2007 after drinking at least 20 ounces of hard liquor in less than three hours at a hotel bar in Fort McMurray.

He had a blood-alcohol level of about .50 — more than six times the legal driving limit. He died in hospital.

"In my view, this was a case of binge drinking," provincial court Judge James Jacques wrote in his report released Monday.

He described the province's Gaming and Liquor Act as an "insufficient safeguard." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta premier drops writ on election campaign

Alberta Conservative Leader Alison Redford talks about the election call in Edmonton on Monday. The Alberta election is called for April 23.

JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Election called. Both right-centre heavyweights promise to build strong pro-oilsands relationship with Ottawa

Alberta Premier Alison Redford dropped the writ Monday on an election campaign between two right-centre heavyweights who both promise to build bridges with Ottawa and not tinker with the cash-cow oilsands.

"We thought we'd call an election today," Redford said Monday as she walked down the front legislature steps with members of her caucus under grey morning skies and chilly spring temperatures.

"This election will be a defining moment, where we will decide what we want the future to be and how we want to conduct ourselves."

Redford, seeking her first public mandate as premier, is sending voters to the polls April 23. Minutes before her public announcement, she made the walk down the legislature's third-floor marble hallway, past the portraits of the province's previous premiers, to Lt.-Gov. Don Ethell's office, where she asked him to sign the writ dissolving the government and calling the election.

"I've been here so many times to see you, but never like this," Redford laughed as she shook hands with Ethell, who presided over her swearing-in ceremony as premier in October. Ethell also signed off on a senator-in-waiting ballot to be held at the same time as the election.

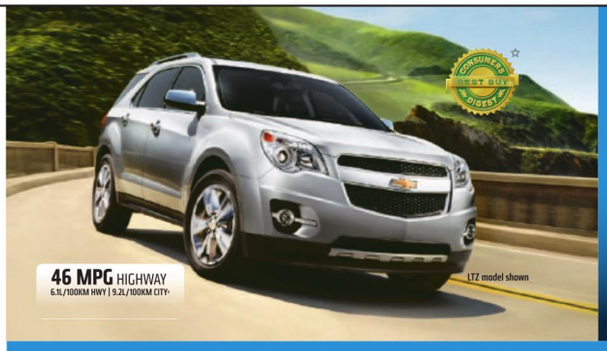
"We have a tremendous economy in this province and we have a wonderful quality of life," she said. "I don't want this to be a campaign about fear. I want this to be a campaign about hope."

Redford's Progressive Conservatives are gunning for a 12th consecutive majority dating back to 1971.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Campaign call

> **"I don't want this to be a campaign about fear. I want this to be a campaign about hope."**
>
> Alison Redford, Alberta Conservative leader



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Obama's health law gets day in court

Protesters with the Tea Party Patriots, including Linda Dorr of Laguna Beach, Calif., centre, protest the Affordable Care Act outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on Monday. JACQUELYN MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hearings begin. U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments on a law that would give health insurance to 95 per cent of Americans

The U.S. Supreme Court yesterday heard the first of three days of arguments on President Barack Obama's health-care overhaul.

The overhaul touches core political divisions in the United States and will have a major impact on the life of virtually every American.

Since Obama signed the legislation into law two years ago, 26 states have challenged the constitutionality of the overhaul. It's the largest expansion in the nation's social safety net in more than four decades.

All four Republicans battling for the nomination to challenge Obama in November have promised to undo the overhaul. That is unless the conservative-dominated Supreme Court doesn't strike it down in a decision expected in June.

The fight over the law, aimed at extending health insurance to more than 30 million Americans, has further inflamed deep divisions in a country knocked off balance by the recession and embroiled in a political battle about the role of government.

Much at stake

- **Until the health-care law, the United States was the only major developed country without a national health-care system.**
- **The hearings this week will be closely followed for clues about what the nine Supreme Court justices are thinking. The court has four liberal-leaning justices and five conservatives.**

In active questioning over 90 minutes, none of the justices appeared to embrace the view of some that the case has been brought prematurely.

Solicitor general Donald Verrilli Jr., defending the health law, urged the court to decide what he called "the issues of great moment" at the heart of the case.

Republicans are leading the fight to kill the law either via the court or through congressional repeal. They say the worst fears about what they derisively call "Obamacare" have already come to pass in the form of higher costs and regulations, claims that the law's supporters dispute.

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A Tibetan nun in exile scuffles with police during a protest in New Delhi, India, Monday. Earlier, a Tibetan exile lit himself on fire ahead of Wednesday's visit by Chinese President Hu Jintao. MANISH SWARUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protester sets himself on fire in New Delhi

Chinese state visit. Tibetan activist suffers severe burns in protest over Chinese President Hu Jintao's upcoming visit to India

A Tibetan exile lit himself on fire and ran shouting through a demonstration in the Indian capital Monday, just before a visit by China's president and following dozens of self-immolations in China in protest of its rule over Tibet.

Indian police swept through the New Delhi protest a few hours later, detaining scores of Tibetans.

The man apparently had doused himself with something highly flammable and was engulfed in flames when he ran past the podium where speakers were criticizing China and President Hu Jintao's visit.

Fellow activists beat out the flames with Tibetan flags and poured water onto him. He was on fire perhaps less than two minutes, but some of his clothing had disintegrated and his skin was mottled with black, burned patches by the time he was driven to a hospital.

About 30 such protests have occurred over the past year in ethnic Tibetan areas of China, and a Tibetan self-immolated last year in India, where many exiles reside. Beijing has blamed the Dalai Lama for inciting them and called the protesters' actions a form of terrorism.

Activists said the exile who self-immolated Monday is Jamphel Yeshi, 27, who escaped from Tibet in 2006.

"We have no idea how this happened, but we appreciate the courage," said Tenzing Norsang, an official with the Tibetan Youth Congress.

Hu is expected to arrive in India on Wednesday for a five-nation economic summit. Norsang called on the summit participants to discuss Tibet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Turkey

Ad using Hitler sparks outrage

Turkey's Jewish community is protesting a Turkish commercial that uses old film footage of Adolf Hitler to sell shampoo.

The Jewish community and the Chief Rabbi's office on Monday demanded a public apology from the advertising company.

The commercial for a men's brand of shampoo has Hitler appear to shout out in a dubbed-over voice: "If you are not wearing women's dress, you shouldn't be using women's shampoo either!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rising tensions. Afghan security kill three NATO soldiers in two incidents

Afghan security forces shot and killed three international troops Monday in two separate incidents, the latest in a rising number of attacks in which Afghan forces have turned their weapons on their foreign partners.

The killings reflect a spike in tensions between Afghan and international forces that follow an American soldier's alleged massacre of Afghan civilians, the burning of Muslim holy books at a U.S. base, and uncertainty about Afghanistan's fate as foreign troops prepare to pull out.

They also come at a time when international troops have stepped up training and mentoring of Afghan soldiers, police and government workers so that Afghans can take the lead and the foreign forces can go home.

U.S. Marine Gen. John Allen, the top commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, said at the Pentagon that these types of attacks are characteristic of any warfare involving insurgents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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How did French gunman go from housing projects to terror campaign?

Mohamed Merah grew up in one of the toughest housing projects of Toulouse, France, with his mother, two brothers and two sisters. At age five, his parents split up — and he took that hard. As a youth he turned to petty crime, landing in prison twice.

How the young man described by one top official as a "little failure" went on to carry out France's biggest terror spree since the mid-1990s is provoking anguished questions in one of the West's most-seasoned terrorism-fighting nations.

Merah's weeklong motorcycle shooting rampage killed three French paratroopers, three Jewish schoolchildren and a rabbi, horrifying France and raising fears that al-Qaida had struck again in Europe. The 23-year-old himself bragged of affiliation to the terror network, but officials say no evidence has turned up of such ties.

In some ways, Merah came across as an ordinary, if troubled, youth.

A one-time auto-body shop worker, Merah liked cars and motorcycles — and enjoyed spinning out in vacant-lot "rodeos" with any car that he got his hands on, said a French official close to the investigation. Merah partied and was seen dancing at a nightclub days before his first suspected shooting, on March 11.

This undated and unlocated frame grab provided March 21 by French TV station France 2 shows Mohamed Merah, who admitted to the killings of seven people before being shot dead by police last week. FRANCE 2/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Behind the run-of-the-mill image hid "a second personality," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the case.

Bernard Squarcini, the head of the French police counterterrorism agency, told Le Monde newspaper that Merah had shown "psychiatric issues" in the past that may have contributed to his rampage.

What tipped the balance, Merah's former lawyer said, was his anger over what he saw as an unjust prison sentence and a failed effort to join the military.

"That laid the groundwork from which he threw himself into this religious fanaticism, in a spirit of vengeance" against the French state, lawyer Christian Etelin said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Members of the New York State Senate, from left, Kevin Parker, Bill Perkins and Eric Adams, wear hooded sweatshirts during session in Albany, N.Y., on Monday, to protest the shooting death of Florida teen Trayvon Martin. MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Family of Fla. teen lashes out at new reports

Shooting death. Supporters of Trayvon Martin put on the defensive after marijuana, beating claims emerge

The family and supporters of slain Florida teenager Trayvon Martin found themselves on the defensive Monday following revelations he had been suspended from school for marijuana before he was shot to death by a neighbourhood-watch volunteer.

Police also confirmed a report that the watchman claimed Martin was the aggressor, punching him in the nose and smacking his head on a sidewalk.

Martin, 17, was suspended by Miami-Dade County schools because traces of marijuana were found in a plastic baggie in his book bag, family spokesman Ryan Julison said. Martin was serving the suspension when he was shot Feb. 26 by George Zimmerman, who was patrolling the neighbourhood that Martin was visiting with his father.

Student Francesca Placide displays her T-shirt in tribute to Trayvon Martin in Miami on Monday. WALTER MICHOT/THE MIAMI HERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zimmerman, 28, claimed he shot Martin in self-defence and has not been arrested. Because Martin was black and Zimmerman has a white father and Hispanic mother, the case has become a racial flashpoint that has civil-rights leaders and others leading a series of protests in Sanford and around the country.

Martin's mother, Sybrina Fulton, and family attorneys blamed police for leaking the information about the marijuana and Zimmerman's claim about the attack to the news media in an effort to demonize the teenager.

"They killed my son and now they're trying to kill his reputation," Fulton told reporters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Diary confession. Defence wants less time for Calgary mom who smothered son

In her own words

Bourdeaux admitted in her diary to both attacks in messages to her husband Ted Fewer, who had died a few years earlier in an electrical accident.

- **"Dear Ted.** Now that you are gone I can confess about Sean," Bourdeaux wrote. "The night that he left us, it wasn't actually while he was sleeping.
- **"I did what** I didn't want to do. The crying wouldn't stop, so I ended up putting a pillow over his face and made sure that it was stopping his breathing. I know it's something that I shouldn't have done, but I did."

The defence says an abusive childhood reduces the moral culpability of a Calgary woman who confessed in her diary to killing her infant son.

Stacey Joy Bourdeaux, 34, pleaded guilty last summer to manslaughter in the death of 10-month-old Sean Ronald Fewer in 2004 and to the attempted murder of her five-year-old six years later. She also admitted to failing to provide the necessities of life.

Defence lawyer Katherin Beyak says Bourdeaux deserves a sentence in the eight- to 10-year range and not the 18 years that the Crown is demanding. While the Crown has pointed to the journal entries as aggravating factors, Beyak told court Monday that the entries did show signs of remorse.

Beyak said Bourdeaux was both physically and sexually abused as a child and received virtually no counselling. That in turn hurt her ability to cope with stressful situations — all "provocative" factors in the death of the infant who was ill and constantly crying.

Bourdeaux's sentence will be delivered on June 22.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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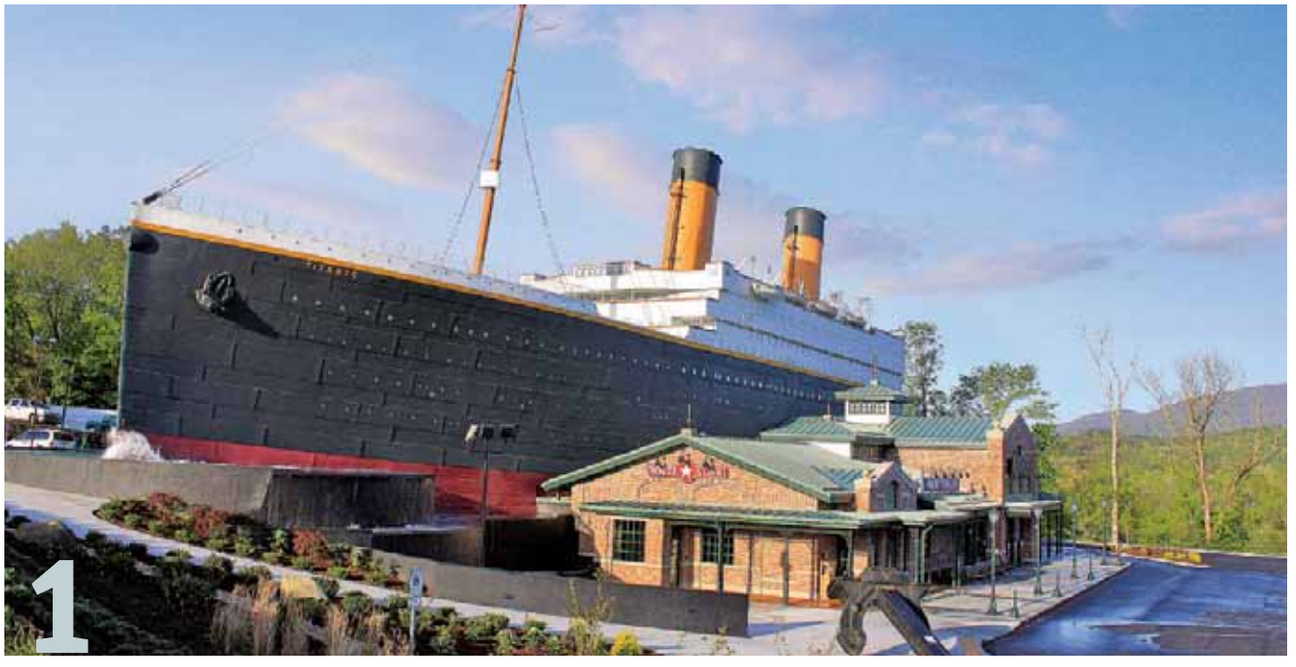
Thousands of kilometres from the ocean, a museum tells the story of a woman made famous by the Titanic. No, her name was not Rose. And a movie about her life, The Unsinkable Molly Brown, starring Debbie Reynolds as a plucky lifeboat survivor, was a hit decades before Kate Winslet's doomed romance in Titanic.

ALL PHOTOS FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



1 April 15, 2012: The centennial

A hundred years ago, the sinking of the Titanic was a tragic disaster. Today, it's fodder for an entertaining outing with the kids.

There are replica ships in Tennessee and Missouri, graveyard tours in New York and Nova Scotia, travelling exhibits from Las Vegas to Atlanta, and two brand new museums in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Southampton, England.

Hotels and restaurants are serving Titanic dinners, and ships are even heading to the disaster site — including an anniversary cruise that slashed prices at the last minute from nearly $5,000 to $1,000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Are you ready to go back to Titanic?

2 Margaret. No one called her Molly in her lifetime

Janet Kalstrom, a retired banking project manager who's been the museum's Molly Brown impersonator for six years, is pictured in the living room at the Molly Brown House Museum.

A few blocks from Colorado's state Capitol, more than 1,700 miles from the Atlantic Ocean and a mile above sea level, is a museum dedicated to a woman eclipsed by legend following the sinking of the Titantic. The "unsinkable Molly Brown" moved into this stone Victorian home after she and her husband struck it rich at a gold mine in Colorado's mountains, nearly 20 years before she boarded the Titanic because it was the first boat she could board to get back home to visit her ailing grandson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 Halifax played central role

This undated file photo provided by Destination Halifax shows the Unknown Child gravestone at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery, in Halifax where 121 Titanic victims are buried.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 A travelling woman she was

This photograph on display at the Molly Brown Museum shows Mrs. J.J. Molly Brown presenting a trophy cup award to Capt. Arthur Henry Rostron for his service in the rescue of the passengers on Titanic.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea haunts global nuclear summit

Distraction. Though not on the summit agenda, North Korea's nuclear intentions are on the back of world leaders' minds

Stephen Harper touched down in Seoul on Monday to attend a global nuclear summit amid a rising cacophony of threats and challenges involving North Korea, its atomic program and the regime's accelerated plans to hurl a satellite into space.

Even though his objective is to talk about how to stop the proliferation of nuclear material and weapons of mass destruction, the prime minister's schedule was packed with a series of bilateral discussions with European countries, which have been struggling to contain their debt crisis.

Although it's not officially on the summit agenda, North Korea stole the initial headlines after U.S. President Barack Obama challenged the leaders of the rogue regime "to have the courage to pursue peace."

His demand came as Seoul warned it might shoot down a North Korean rocket carrying a satellite if it violates South Korean territory.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird acknowledged the distraction, but suggested it should not hijack the conference. "We're working with our allies and others to take every diplomatic measure necessary to send a very strong message to the North Korean government that we strongly disapprove," he said.

The launch has been described by the U.S. as a test of Pyongyang's ballistic-missile technology. It's a charge the new regime of Kim Jong-un denies. Obama, despite his challenge to the North, said he stood by his pledge for a globe without nuclear weapons.

A series of internal briefings, prepared for Defence Minister Peter MacKay, show Canada is skeptical of the pledge. "North Korea's nuclear test provides stark relief to the recent swell of international political support for nuclear disarmament and demonstrates how difficult it will be to translate the vision of a nuclear-free world into reality," said a 2009 analysis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

South Korean President Lee Myung-bak greets Prime Minister Stephen Harper during a welcome ceremony for the Nuclear Security Summit at the Coex Center in Seoul on Monday. SUSAN WALSH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook ownership? Lawyers claim fabricated emails, forged documents

Attorneys for Facebook sought the dismissal Monday of what they called an "opportunistic and fraudulent" lawsuit by a New York man claiming half-ownership of the social networking site.

The attorneys asserted that Paul Ceglia, of Wellsville, had forged documents, fabricated emails and destroyed evidence, and said he had waited too long — six years — to file it and the statute of limitations had thus expired. Ceglia's attorneys say their client deserves his day in court. In his 2010 lawsuit, Ceglia claimed that a 2003 contract he and Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg signed entitled Ceglia to 50 per cent of Facebook, which launched the following year. Ceglia said the contract showed that when he hired Zuckerberg to help him develop a street-mapping database, he also gave Zuckerberg $1,000 in startup money for his fledgling Facebook idea in exchange for half-ownership of the company if it grew.

Zuckerberg said he hadn't even conceived of Facebook at the time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 100.89¢ (+0.76¢)

TSX 12,574.79 (-109.13)

OIL $107.03 US (+$0.16)

GOLD $1,685.60 US (+$23.20)

Natural gas: $2.226 (-4.9¢) (per 1,000 cubic feet)
Dow Jones: 13,241.63 (+160.9)

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THE WOES OF WOULD-BE HOMEBUYERS

SHE SAYS...
Jessica Napier
metronews.ca/shesays

My mother always told me that one of her biggest mistakes in life was not getting on the property ladder early enough. Consequently, I've had a desire to invest in bricks and mortar since my late teens.

After four years together and a semi-aggressive saving plan, my boyfriend and I are finally ready to take the leap toward permanent cohabitation. After all, you can wait forever for the real-estate bubble to burst or you can suck it up and decide the "right time" is never going to come and just take the plunge. We were pre-approved for a horrifyingly unrealistic mortgage, found ourselves a patient agent and resolved to give up all our weekends for the unforeseeable future.

Of course, finding a place that fits all our criteria and our budget is proving to be a seemingly impossible task. There's always something not quite right. Units are too small, too pricey, too dark, too high. I'm starting to feel like the Goldilocks of urban real estate.

Downtown digs

"We make sacrifices to live the urban dream — we give up space, money and perhaps a little bit of our sanity. But, for me, there are intangible joys that come with downtown living that make it all worthwhile."

Whenever I get terribly depressed about my home-buying woes I log on to FML Listings, a Toronto-based blog that highlights the absurdity of the city's real-estate market by posting outrageous listings alongside snarky commentary. For added impact, the site compares Toronto listings with those in other markets. For example, a three-bedroom bungalow about half an hour outside downtown is listed at just under $1.8 million, roughly the same price as Paula Abdul's mansion in the Hollywood Hills. Heartbreaking isn't it?

So why bother trying to buy in the city at all?

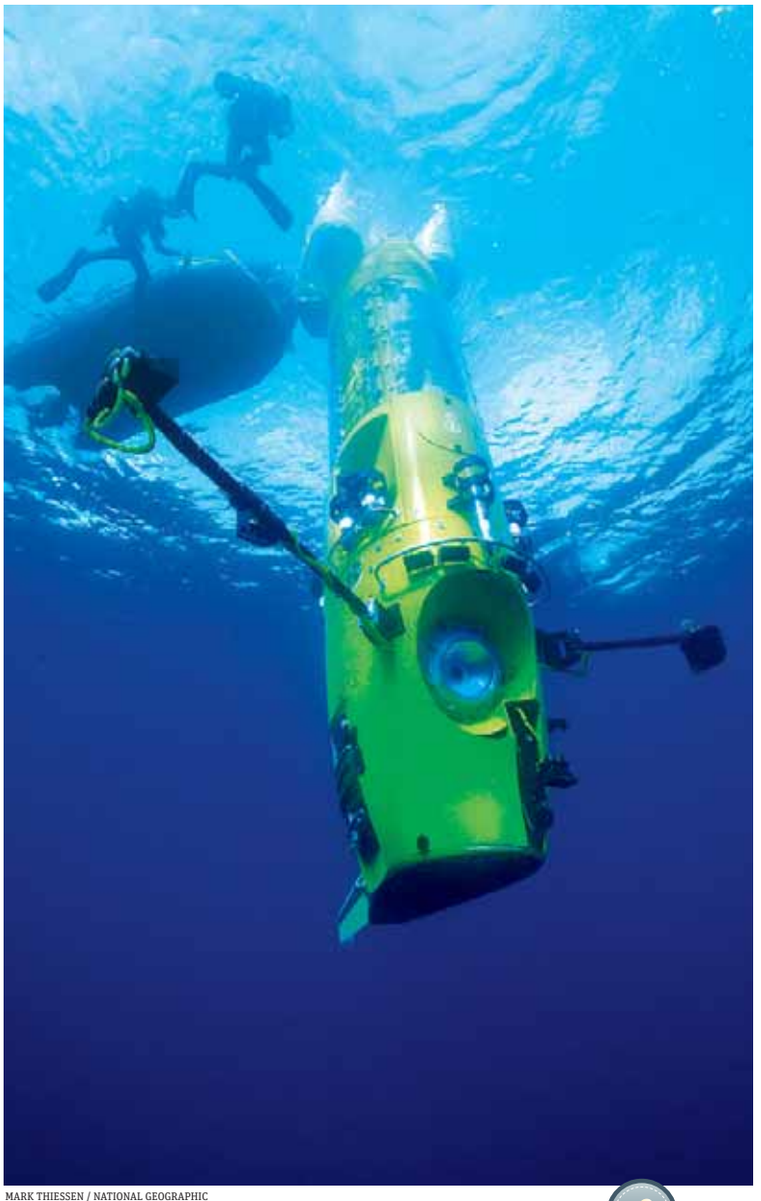
We make sacrifices to live the urban dream — we give up space, money and perhaps a little bit of our sanity. But, for me, there are intangible joys that come with downtown living that make it all worthwhile.

While walking home last night after another series of hopeless viewings, we stumbled across a street performer playing a very unique rendition of Greensleeves. The man was using a bow to play an industrial saw as an instrument. It was a beautifully strange sight but not out of place among the eclectic happenings of the city. You just don't find that in the suburbs; you'd never see anything like that outside the window of your SUV in a strip-mall parking lot.

The city itself has an unpredictable way of reminding me that this is where I belong. So despite all the hours lost in open-houses and blood-pressure-raising bidding wars, I know we'll get there in the end.

Being a homeowner in the city has its price. ISTOCK

Director reflects on voyage 'to hell'



MARK THIESSEN / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

The Titanic

Director returns from 'the abyss'

PACIFIC OCEAN. The last frontier on Earth is out-of-this-world, desolate, foreboding and moon-like, James Cameron said after diving to the deepest part of the ocean. And he loved it.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Avatar

"Back from trip to deepest pl on Earth -#oceans hadal zone. Puts a new spin on 'to hell and back'. Good to see the sunshine."
JAMES CAMERON TWEETS AFTER FEAT

Mariana Trench

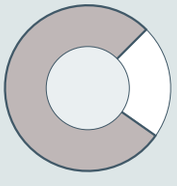
- Hydraulic failure meant Cameron was unable to retrieve samples from the trench.
- He said, "My feeling was one of complete isolation from all of humanity."
- Cameron said he had hoped to see a strange deep-sea monster, a creature that would excite the storyteller in him and resemble something out of his movies, but he didn't.
- The trench is 120 times larger than the Grand Canyon and more than two kilometres deeper than Mount Everest is tall.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Were you surprised the iPhone topped the BlackBerry as Canada's smartphone of choice?

78% NO. IT WAS A LONG TIME COMING



22% YES. WE SHOULD BE LOYAL TO OUR HOME BRAND

Twitter

@CBCSmart:
NDP Leader Adrian Dix on defensive over fare evasion warning. Takes responsibility but admits hadn't planned to disclose it. #cbc #bcpoli

@djrusty1:
@CFL @forcaporkchop 95 days baby just 95 days till we raise the #99gc banner & start the hunt for #100GC #BCLions #CFL

@ThomasDrance:
I doubt AV wants to make roster decisions based on contract status in the playoffs. With 7 games remaining, I expect MAG plays most of them.

@michaelgeller:
While I'm happy #Dunns has opened in Vcr, Zako's Deli on B'way, just west of Cambie makes wonderful lean & moist smoked meat sandwich!

@jarpad:
Drivin back to Vancouver with the family, TWO HOUR WAIT at the border!!!!

metro
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ABC LifeLiteracyCanada

Are you prepared?

Madonna shows her vulnerable side on her new album, MDNA. GETTY IMAGES

Deconstructing MDNA

New album. Metro's Pat Healy listens to Madonna's first new album in four years and hears her mortal side

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

Madonna is a bitch out of order, a bat out of hell and a fish out of water. At least that's what she compares herself to in the song Gang Bang, off her brand new album, MDNA. Madge's claim about being broken, angry and alienated is a succinct self-analysis.

It's been four years since her last album of new material, the longest gap of her nearly 30-year career, which would explain the fish-out-of-water feeling — to say nothing of the fact that her last album came out a full six months before the debut of another Italian-American with a stage name, a penchant for shock value and a monster-load of blond ambition, Lady Gaga.

As far as the bitch-out-of-order and the bat-out-of-hell, her venomous personal lyrics on this album make it difficult to distinguish Madonna — the pop legend — from Madonna, the mortal whose eight-year marriage to director Guy Ritchie ended in a bitter divorce.

"I tried to be a good girl, I tried to be your wife," she sings on I Don't Give A.

It is this vulnerability that gives MDNA its vitality. And this uneasiness of being thrown into a different life situation almost makes it acceptable for her to sing like a teenager about drinking too much Tanqueray and "Tweetin' in the elevator."

Comparing a new love to Mike Jordan and Abe Lincoln in the same song? Well, that's just silly. But she seems to acknowledge there's a personal crisis at hand, where impulsive behaviour is the norm, singing, "I know I shouldn't act this way" in Girl Gone Wild.

This confessional intimacy also makes it difficult to criticize Madonna for imitation, which she does indulge in a bit on MDNA.

To that charge, the material girl is just as much of a smart shopper as she's always been, using the baddest guest stars (including Nicki Minaj and M.I.A.) and the best producers (including Martin Solveig and William Orbit) to bring her sound into now. If she can't define the times, she's certainly not going to be behind them. And really, anybody she's borrowing from wouldn't even be making music if it weren't for her. The racecar bass lines, pumping beats and Skrillex-style monster breakdown would seem forced if not done properly. But it's Madonna, and even if she is a fish out of water, she can always get into the groove.

The makeup of MDNA

- **Approximate number of times the words "girl" or "girls" are used:** 63.
- **Approximate number of times the word "bitch" is used:** 13.
- **Approximate number of songs that are most likely about Guy Ritchie:** Six and a half.
- **Number of previous Madonna hits referenced by title:** Three.
- **Number of Nicki Minaj guest appearances:** Two.
- **Number of songs with spoken prayers:** Two.
- **Number of songs where a banjo is clearly audible:** One.

Deluxe it up

The deluxe edition clocks in at more than an hour, which can be a little exhausting, but it features perhaps some of the best songs, including an almost punky duet with M.I.A. called B-Day Song, and the plaintively titled and emotionally raw, I F—d Up. Madonna may not have been the one to make an F-bomb acceptable in a pop song (that honour belongs to Cee-Lo, obviously) but she sure as hell can make it her own.

Scene in brief

Prime time for Kimmel

Late-night host Jimmy Kimmel just got a prime-time gig: Host of the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards. The star and executive producer of Jimmy Kimmel Live! will host the Emmy Awards ceremony on Sept. 23 at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. "I hope to be able to do for the Emmys this year what Eddie Murphy did for the Oscars," Kimmel joked, referring to the comedian who pulled out as host of this year's Oscar ceremony. This is Kimmel's first time hosting the Emmy Awards. Kimmel's namesake show is in its 10th season on ABC. He previously hosted the American Music Awards and the ESPY Awards and is set to host the White House Correspondents' dinner next month.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Nice guy Eric McCormack from Will & Grace taps into his sinister side for return to Broadway

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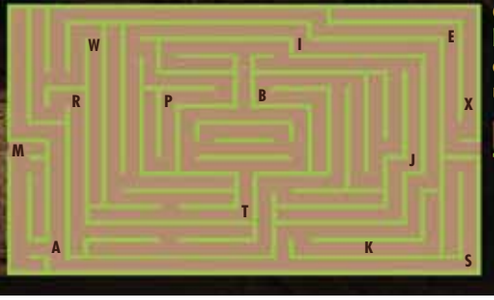

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lookunderlearn.ca

ABC LifeLiteracyCanada

Jennifer Aniston GETTY IMAGES

Half a million in gifts? Life ain't shabby for Jennifer's main man

Dating Jennifer Aniston apparently has its perks, including lavish gifts.

The former Friends star has reportedly bought beau Justin Theroux around $500,000 worth of extravagant presents, including a $12,000 leather jacket that belonged to James Dean and a pair of high-end motorcycles, according to Grazia magazine.

"Neither Jen nor Justin seem embarrassed that she is the main breadwinner. She is in a comfortable position, so why not spend money on the man she loves," a source says. Of course, the showering with gifts isn't a one-way street: "Justin loves buying Jen little gifts and going out of his way to show how much he cares," the source adds. "This is not a one-sided relationship at all, and Jen feels she is the luckiest girl in the world."

The Word

There he is, Miss Universe Canada?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Is the world ready for a transgender Miss Universe contestant?

The quick answer to this is: No.

The longer explanation has to do with beauty pageant contestant Jenna Talackova, 23, who made it to the finals in the Miss Vancouver pageant, but was ultimately ruled ineligible due to her being biologically male. The 6-1 stunner did well — and even made it to the finals — but was disqualified after organizers learned she wasn't a naturally born female, according to CTV News.

"Jenna Talackova from Vancouver, British Columbia, will not compete in the 2012 Miss Universe Canada competition because she did not meet the requirements to compete despite having stated otherwise on her entry form," Miss Universe Canada organizers said in a statement. "We do, however, respect her goals, determination and wish her the best."

According to CTV News, Talackova started hormone therapy at 14 and had gender reassignment surgery at 19.

Talackova is claiming discrimination, which Miss Universe Canada national director Denis Davila refutes, telling CTV News, "We have to have the facts straight. There is no discrimination here at all. You can look at it the way she wants to look at it ... but we all have to follow the same rules."

Miss Universe Canada says that Talackova indicated on her registration form that she was born a female but later admitted that she was born a male, India Today reports.

Here's the thing: Whether you are applying for a job at Arby's or as a beauty pageant contestant in Canada, you can't lie on your application form.

And, as a woman, I can see where this is tricky. Women already earn, on average, 23 per cent less than our male counterparts in the working world.

Sadly, beauty pageants are one constant where we can compete on a level playing field.

A playing field where we compete in high heels and fake eyelashes, but a fair one nonetheless.

On the other hand, she doesn't look like she had any less work than the rest of Miss Universe contestants, so what's the big deal?

Jenna Talackova, transgendered contestant ousted from Miss Universe Canada 2012 competition, is pictured here in a Model Mayhem.com portfolio photo.

MODELMAYHEM.COM

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Put away the pills; pain may be rooted in your self

Dig below the surface if you are suffering.
"The pain detective" is urging patients to look at the role stress plays in your injuries

CELIA MILNE
wellness@metronews.ca

Got pain?

If so, look at the big picture, says Dr. Hillel Finestone, who treats patients suffering from painful conditions.

Finestone, a.k.a "the pain detective," says that injuries and wounds can take longer to heal if you are going through a difficult time, perhaps struggling with the loss of a job, stressed out by a breakup or divorce, being mired in a toxic relationship, or having been abused as a child.

"Psychological stress is associated with a slower or delayed healing of wounds or injuries," says Finestone, director of stroke rehabilitation research at the Elisabeth Bruyere Hospital in Ottawa.

In his career treating patients with back pain, neck pain, fibromyalgia and other pain conditions, Finestone tries to focus on the whole person and what else is going on in their life, and not just the sore part. He has published scientific articles on the effect of stress on healing, and also wrote a book called The Pain Detective: Every Ache Tells a Story.

Ergonomic problems, such as uncomfortable chairs or a badly set-up workstation, can also keep you in pain.

"Millions of dollars are spent on pain-related medication," says Finestone. "Paying attention to the whole person could produce better outcomes, reduce disability and save money."

Analysis

What to do about your pains

Dr. Hillel Finestone, the author of The Pain Detective, has some advice for getting to the bottom of your pains.

"Never underestimate the ability of your life and feelings to affect your health in both negative and positive directions. Ask yourself, What's going on in my life that could be causing my muscles to tense up, thus leading to a worsening of my back or neck pain? Can my negative mood be affecting my desire to exercise, leading me to eat too much, smoke more and live in an unhealthy way?"

If back pain is consuming your life, there are ways to get rid of it, sans pharmaceuticals. ISTOCK PHOTOS

NEED A RIDE?
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UBC HELPING OVERWEIGHT TEENS
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3 LIFE

Coregasm

Exercise orgasms

Researchers at Indiana University have anecdotal evidence that exercise can lead to female orgasm. Exercises that can induce an orgasm are abdominal exercises, biking/spinning, climbing poles or ropes and weight lifting. The phenomenon is referred to as 'coregasm.'

Muscles

Hockey workouts

If Kate Middleton stays so slim and toned by playing hockey, then we are sure to be giving it a go. She has great legs, and we're hoping squeezing a couple of games in will have the same effect on us.

METRO WORLD NEWS

On the Web

Feds extend funding for northern tuberculosis research, testing

Skip right to sweet endings at premiere cheesecake spot

Egg Sandwich ($8) and Mango Cheesecake ($5.50) ERIN IRELAND

LUNCH RUSH
Erin Ireland
life@metronews.ca

Ever wish your metabolism could handle food like cheesecake for lunch? I do — often. While lunching on a made-to-order creation from Sweet Obsession's new sandwich bar, this thought sprang to mind.

The popular Arbutus Ridge bakery cafe serves everything from bran muffins to pear tartlets and exquisite cakes.

After eating half an Egg Sandwich, it was clear the new menu addition was not its forte.

You know those home-made sandwiches whose purpose is to stifle hunger and not necessarily pleasure? That was this.

Hard-boiled eggs alone (as opposed to egg salad with mayo) need help — salt, sauce, something. Pickled cucumber and daikon had good intentions, but were soggy.

You'd think a brioche bun from Terra could cure anything, but this one was on the dry side and overall the sandwich bore too much bread.

Other sandwich options include a Veggie, a Chicken Brie, and a Porchetta. Perhaps I chose the wrong one.

A slice of Mango Cheesecake was what the doctor ordered. It was perfectly dense with wonderful, strong fruity flavours.

Visiting the restaurant

Sweet Obsession

Address. 2611 West 16th Ave.

Phone. 604-739-0555

Website. sweetobsession.ca

Rating. 2.5/5

Price range. $3 - $10

Reservations. No

Social lunch. Yes

Quick solo lunch. Yes

Tuna Melt Sandwich. A childhood favourite gets a healthy makeover

1. In bowl, combine red onion, spinach, mayo, tuna and pepper. Use fork to mash mix until mayo is evenly distributed.

2. Place toasted bagel halves on foil lined baking sheet. Divide tuna mix among bagel halves. Top evenly with cheese.

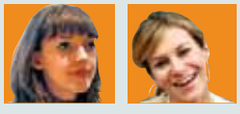
3. Bake in centre of 425 F (220 C) oven 5 mins. or until cheese is melted. Turn broiler to High and broil 3 mins. or until cheese is bubbling and starting to brown. **NEWS CANADA/ PRESIDENT'S CHOICE/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA)**

Ingredients

- 3 tbsp (45 mL) finely chopped red onion
- 2 cups (500 mL) packed baby spinach leaves, chopped
- 5 tbsp (75 mL) light mayo
- 1 can (170 g) wild albacore flaked white tuna in water, drained
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) freshly ground black pepper
- 2 thin multigrain bagels, lightly toasted
- 2/3 cup (150 mL) light triple cheddar shredded cheese

Advice

Don't deal with a dog



TWO SISTERS
Andrea and Claire
Life@metronews.ca

Dear Sisters,
I'm a freelancer and often work from cafes around town, where I meet interesting people. Lately I've been chatting with a guy who has made it clear he's interested — always making eye contact, asking what I do, offering to share food with me, and generally showing interest in me. He's cute — or he was until he happened to mention that he's in a relationship. What's up with the mixed signals?
Confused but caffeinated!

In a relationship or not, some guys just like to flirt. ISTOCK

Andrea: Dear CC,
It's pretty obvious that this guy is a dog. He sees something shiny, shakes his tail and wants to play fetch. But, as cute as he may be, it'd be rude to kidnap someone else's puppy, now wouldn't it? Thankfully the blood did eventually flow back to his brain when he mentioned his relationship.

The way things were going, it sounds like you dodged a bullet there. The fact that he's still flirting with you though, does mean that he and/or his relationship has issues. He may see you as a great distraction, or a valid option to avoid loneliness should he break things off ... or he may see you as flirtatious fun. Either way, you don't need to get into this mess.

Claire: Dear CC,
What's that saying: You can window shop, you just can't buy. Maybe he's window shopping his brains out, flirting via muffins and other baked goods because it makes his day a little more fun. I'm trying to put myself in his shoes — I think we've all done this at some point — enjoyed our attraction to someone all the more because it doesn't have to go anywhere. I know for a fact that I was a much better flirt when I was married, because I felt safe and strong.

And yes, it might indicate that his relationship isn't in great shape, but that's not for you to worry about.

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Americans value Internet over chocolate, alcohol, sex?

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
MWN in London, UK

The Internet: are Americans well connected, or addicted?

According to a new survey conducted by the Boston Consultancy Group (BCG), a little bit of both. In order to quantify the extent to which people valued their time spent surfing the web, BCG asked what people would be willing to live without in order to remain connected to the Internet.

A lot apparently: 83 per cent said they'd give up fast food, 77 per cent chocolate, 73 per cent alcohol, 69 per cent coffee and 21 per cent said they would forgo sex for an entire year.

Talking money

- **Contribution to the global economy:** The Internet contributes $2.3 trillion to the global economy and is expected to grow to $4.2 trillion in about four years.

"Whilst we found the survey results surprising in terms of what U.S. consumers are willing to give up in order to keep Internet access, what they reveal is how deeply the Internet has engrained itself in daily life in the U.S.," Paul Zwillenberg, partner at The Boston Consultancy Group and co-author of the report, tells Metro.

The Internet attracts 1.6 billion global users daily, a figure expected to rise to 3 billion by 2016. By then, half of the world's population will be online.

But what makes Americans click? Access to global search engines, such as Google and e-mail, as well as online banking and investing were some of the things most valued by Americans.

The Internet economy is the eighth-largest sector in the U.S. and is currently growing at 6.5 per cent a year, giving Americans a reason to believe it could eventually help pull their country out of recession.

Whereas in the past, things like alcohol, sex and chocolate were immune to changes in the economy, none of them have ever had the power to boost a country in crisis like the Internet.

According to Zwillenberg, the perceived value U.S. consumers themselves believe they receive, over and above what they pay for devices, applications, services and access, known as the 'Consumer Surplus,' amounts to $2,528 per person.

Michelle Obama should be taking notes for her 'Let's Move!' fitness campaign: instead of trying to get Americans fit the conventional way — diet and exercise — she should get the President to ban the Internet.

It seems like an efficient (and faster) way to get the entire country to detox.

Conquer savings paralysis by being a 1% superhero

Baby steps. Why not give yourself a raise? Increase your savings by a little bit each year until you reach your goal.

YOUR MONEY
Alison Griffiths
money@metronews.ca

Is your savings plan a one step forward, two steps back exercise? Do you make tons of excellent resolutions, only to do a financial face-plant when temptation beckons? Or perhaps you get distracted by job, family, life and never manage to keep track so you really don't know where you are.

If you fit into one or more of these scenarios, a rescue by Superhero/ine 1% is in order. Yes, such a character exists — in fact, Marvel Comics has been beating down my door for the rights.

But while I'm waiting on millions in royalties, let's put Superhero/ine 1% to work for you.

Say you earn $50,000 and are saving three per cent of your income ($1,500) annually by contributing to an RRSP, TFSA or a savings account.

Ten per cent is usually the gold standard for savings. But getting to 10 per cent from three is like trying to lose 25 pounds in a couple of weeks. Maybe you can do it, but maintain it? Tougher.

If you stick with the current savings rate and manage a four per cent return over the next 10 years, you'll have just over $18,500 tucked away. I'm also adding in a salary boost of two per cent annually and assuming inflation is three per cent.

Now, take the hand of Superhero/ine 1% and increase your savings rate from three to four per cent annually ($2,000). After 10 years you'd have more than $24,600 squirrelled away. If this money is contributed to an RRSP, the net gain will actually be higher as your taxable income will be reduced.

Here's where Superhero/ine 1% really produces magic. If you can increase your savings by a single percentage point every year you'd have $52,300 in hand.

Granted, at the end of 10 years your savings rate would be 13 per cent of income. To many that's too big a leap. Not only that, you might be saying, "In your dreams!" when looking at my salary increase projection of two per cent annually.

My point is that by increasing your savings a small amount annually or until you reach a specific goal — say 10 per cent of income — you can conquer savings paralysis.

And it's all thanks to Superhero/ine 1%. You can play with your own figures with The New York Times' The 1% more saving calculator. (Visit nytimes.com and go to the Your Money section. From there, search for "The 1% more calculator.")

Alison's money rule

"Wealth will be in your future just by increasing savings by a small percentage annually."

How much are we saving?

- **Nest eggs.** 2.3% of gross income (or 4.9% of after-tax income) is the average Canadian savings rate.

ALISON GRIFFITHS IS THE AUTHOR OF COUNT ON YOURSELF: TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR MONEY. REACH HER AT GRIFFITHS.ALISON@GMAIL.COM OR ALISONGRIFFITHS.CA

As your earn more, make sure to save more. ISTOCK

When to get tax help

Don't be a hero. Before you sit down with a calculator and a brown paper bag (to breathe into) consider using a professional tax advisor

FUN AND FRUGAL
Leslie Scorgie
money@metronews.ca
@Lesleyscorgie on Twitter

Sitting on the fence about hiring a tax advisor? Professional tax advisors can help you file your taxes on time and correctly. They can optimize your unique tax situation by determining the appropriate credits and deductions and help you plan your taxes for the future.

It's a good idea to hire a professional advisor when:

You are not sure how or you don't have time to prepare your own taxes. Don't take chances on your taxes. Get them prepared correctly and on time. If you file them incorrectly or late, there can be penalties and adjustments.

You have experienced a major life event. If you have moved, married, divorced, had a child or experienced death or disability within your family; your tax considerations are more complex. Hiring an advisor will help you navigate through the details.

You own a business, or have multiple streams of income. If you're running a business from your home, own a business, work multiple jobs, own rental properties or have freelance income, there are unique tax rates, rules and write-offs associated with these forms of income.

You have experienced a major change in your financial situation. If you won the lottery, filed for bankruptcy, are being audited, made or lost a significant amount of money; your tax rate, benefits and legal obligations may have changed.

If you're going to hire a tax advisor or tax accountant, get a referral from a friend or family member. Affordable, professional tax services are also available through firms like H&R Block (hrblock.ca).

Don't get in over your head. ISTOCK

Always get organized before meeting with an advisor; gather your prior returns, tax slips, receipts and make notes of relevant information. This will save the advisor time and you'll save money. If you have time and knowledge to prepare your own taxes correctly, go for it. You'll save money on tax advisor fees. Typically, if your tax situation is straightforward, your return should be also.

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** Source: Metropolitan Panel, Metro Toronto, Wednesday April 17, 2011, 309 respondents*

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metro
LEARNING CURVE
Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Kwantlen students bring UN to UBC

Marketing project.
Second-year students take home $250 each

DANIEL HENDRIKSEN
For Metro

A group of students from Kwantlen Polytechnic University represented both their school and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at Harvard's World Model United Nations (WorldMUN) conference earlier this month.

More than 65 countries were represented at the conference, which was hosted by the University of British Columbia from March 11-15. Kwantlen sent 15 students to the event, each of which represented different disciplines, perspectives and expertise.

"It's an opportunity that forces you to consider things from other cultural perspectives and to learn about the issues plaguing the world," said Kwantlen lead delegate Sophia Veale in a press release.

"The skills in diplomacy that are learned in this sort of interactive environment ... are unique to these kinds of activities, and are so important."

The group from Kwantlen spent months preparing for the event, practicing their debate skills and researching Jordan's stance on international matters.

WorldMUN was founded by Harvard University in 1991. It was designed to allow youth from around the world to express their views on international issues, and to develop global networks. This year was the first time it was held in North America.

SFU student helps youth in Sierra Leone

A Simon Fraser University student is making a difference for youth in the African nation of Sierra Leone.

Krissi Bucholtz, a third-year major in World Literature at SFU has been doing all she can to help children in that country since she was a senior in high school.

It was in Grade 12 that the Surrey native took charge of a fundraising mission to help build a school in Sierra Leone. The project saw Bucholtz travel there and work hands-on with youth in the area.

Fast-forward a few years later and Bucholtz has been to Sierra Leone several times in an effort to continue improving the lives of children. She spearheaded another fundraising project called The People's Foundation of Sierra Leone, which has raised $25,000 so far.

"These experiences enabled me to be a more active student in the classroom in Canada, speaking out about issues that before I might have let pass by silently," said Bucholtz in a news release.

She will head back Sierra Leone for another six months later this year.

New student association to internationalize campus

Students at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) have invented a new association to promote and celebrate diversity at their school.

The International Student Association (ISA) was launched earlier this month, and students behind the idea say the goal is to improve lives of fellow students by encouraging internationalization on campus.

Those involved in the ISA worked for two months before finally establishing it in partnership with UFV International on Feb. 23. Though the association is only a month old, they have already formed an executive to carry out its initiatives.

"University is not just about studying," said Amritpal Cheema, the ISA's CEO. "It's also about having the best time of your life. International students tend to be shy about talking to people who are not from their culture. We want to make it easier for them to integrate on campus and in the community. Our goal is to create an environment that makes people feel included and valued."

The ISA will be holding a community dinner on March 28 from 4-6 p.m. at University House, located on UFV's Abbottsford campus. For more, contact Cheema at ISA.CEO@ufv.ca.

Canada Research Chairs. UBC appoints three chairs to transform Canadian research

DANIEL HENDRIKSEN
For Metro

The University of British Columbia has gained three additional Canada Research Chairs, while renewing six others. The post-secondary institution's total now sits at 186, making it the second largest in the country.

The new CRC appointments, valued at $9.9 million, are in the fields of neuroscience, biotechnology, astronomy, anthropology and climate science.

"The Canada Research Chairs program has helped to transform research at UBC and across Canada," said John Hepburn, vice-resident of research and international at UBC, in a statement.

"The new discoveries and knowledge generated by researchers in this program will improve the quality of life of all Canadians."

The three new appointees are Gary Hinshaw, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy; Shaylih Muehlmann, assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology; and Christina Laffin, assistant professor in the Department of Asian Studies.

The new CRC appointments at UBC brings the school's total to 186. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

UBC appoints new VP for community engagement

The Board of Governors at the University of British Columbia has approved the appointment of a new vice-president of communications and community engagement (CCE).

Pascal Spothelfer, former president and CEO of the B.C. Technology Industry Association, will assume the post on May 28 for a five-year term.

"We are very pleased to welcome Pascal Spothelfer to UBC," said Stephen Toope, president and vice-chancellor in a news release. "His breadth of experience and his track record in steering organizations through innovation and change will help to guide and strengthen our university."

The 51-year-old Spothelfer has worked in Europe for the Boston Consulting Group and Jenoptik AG. His resume also boasts positions such as CEO of NovAtel Inc. in Calgary.

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Conference set to stimulate economy

DANIEL HENDRIKSEN
For Metro

Simon Fraser University's Vancouver campus will be the venue for a conference designed to stimulate British Columbia's economy May 10-12.

The conference is called BCreative 2012, and will be a group effort between government, business, the creative sector and researchers.

It will feature four keynote speakers: Edna dos Santos-Duisenberg, co-author of two UN Creative Economy reports; Tanja Muehlhans, founder of Berlin's Creative Industries Initiative in 2005; Charles Landry, author of The Creative City: A toolkit for Urban Innovators and the Origins and Futures of the Creative City; and Robert Sirman, director and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts.

The BCreative conference will also feature more than 25 other speakers including authors Timothy Taylor and Garry Thomas Morse, Magazines Canada CEO Mark Jamison, and SFU School of Communications professor Richard Smith.

Simon Fraser University's Vancouver campus is host to BCreative 2012, a conference designed to stimulate the economy. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Early bird tickets for the conference are available now until March 31. Prices are as follows: government/business $395; academic/non-profit $250; creatives/students $150.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit sfu.ca/bcreative.

SFU Pipe Band – 30 Years

The Simon Fraser University Pipe Band is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year and they plan on commemorating the milestone in style.

The band will be playing two celebratory shows: one in Vancouver on April 15 at the Vogue Theatre and the other in New York City on May 4. The show in New York will take place at the Lincoln Theatre, and will also be recorded for a live CD.

Both shows will feature the Pipe Band's world-class soloists and champion highland dancers, as well as other special guests. In a media release, Pipe sergeant Jack Lee said the band plans on playing mostly new material for the 30th anniversary shows.

"This is a special year for the SFU Pipe Band," Lee said. "Very few pipe bands have been able to maintain themselves as world championship contenders for 30 years running, and we are proud of the band's accomplishments."

The SFU Pipe Band has been crowned world champion a total of six times; they have released 10 CDs, and have played at some of the world's most famous concert halls.

Tickets for the upcoming Vancouver show can be found at sfupb.com.

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Langara students win photo awards

This photo by Kezia Nathe won the Jan de Haas Memorial Trophy for Most Creative Image. KEZIA NATHE PHOTO

Two students and five alumni of Langara College's Professional Photo-Imaging Program took home awards at the 67th annual Professional Photographers of Canada (BC) Awards earlier this month.

Second-year student Kezia Nathe was the big winner, walking away with a pair of prestigious honours: Best Portrait and Best Commercial in the student category, and Student Photographer of the Year. Nathe also received the Jan de Haas Memorial Trophy for Most Creative Image.

"It is an absolute honor to receive all these awards, but I wouldn't be where I am without the continuous support of my family or the help and knowledge I have received from my teachers, mentors and classmates," said Nathe.

Alumnus Chester Goosen had a big night as well, as he beat out 11 other nominees and was chosen as Professional Photographer of the Year.

Other Langara representatives who won awards were first-year student Jan Snarski, who was the winner of a Judges Choice award; alumnus David Custodio, who received the Alvin Schaffer Memorial Trophy for Best Image by a Langara Alumni; and photo-imaging instructor Dave Scougal, who was presented with the Craftsman of Photographic Arts designation.

All the winning photographs advanced to the national competition later this month in Saskatoon.

Nursing students up for Health Council award

A pair of nursing students from Langara College are among the finalists in the Health Council of Canada's Innovation Challenge — a national competition to improve health-care practices in our country.

Kate Hunc and Katie Adam are in the fifth term of their Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Langara. Their entry was an analysis of the Extended Care Paramedic (ECP) program — a pilot project in Nova Scotia.

The winners of the competition will walk away with a $1,000 grand prize and the opportunity to apply for a summer internship at the Health Council of Canada office in Toronto. The winners are set to be announced at the end of the month.

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Student Research Day. Douglas students put research skills to work in science and humanities

DANIEL HENDRIKSEN
For Metro

This past Monday, Douglas College celebrated its fourth annual Student Research Day at the Surrey campus.

The concourse at the school was filled with information on a wide variety of topics, thanks to the research completed by more than 200 individual students and groups.

Students put their research skills to work, as they covered topics in the areas of science and technology, humanities, sport science, health care and child care.

Participants presented to faculty, administration and members of the public using both multimedia and poster presentations.

Some of the topics researched in the student-organized event included:

- The effects of youth physical activity on adulthood socioeconomic status.
- Toxic additives in personal care and food products.
- The effects of stress on informal caregivers.
- The health and environmental consequences of hydraulic fracking.
- Which is safer: home births versus hospital births?
- Euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide.
- What motivates young people to contemplate plastic surgery.
- The effectiveness of abstinence-until-marriage sex education programs.
- The antisocial aspects of social networking.
- E-waste: where does it go, and what are the consequences?

Resource to help prevent sex abuse of Aboriginal youth

A new manual developed by the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) School of Community and Social Justice was released earlier this month.

The booklet is designed to provide information about and prevent the sexual abuse of Aboriginal youths living in isolated and rural areas of B.C.

The manual is called Restoring the Honouring Circle: Taking a Stand Against Youth Sexual Exploitation.

It was written by JIBC Research Associate Sarah Hunt, and released on March 5 to coincide with Stop the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Awareness Week.

The development of the manual comes after a study released in 2000 revealed that Aboriginal youths in B.C. were disproportionately involved in sexual exploitation.

The study found that between 14 to 60 per cent of sexually exploited youths were First Nations.

"This new resource underscores our commitment to conducting applied research that promotes social change that helps keep our communities safe," said JIBC president Jack McGee in a media release.

"With this new resource in place, we hope that professionals and volunteers providing support to Aboriginal youth are better equipped to deal with sexual exploitation in their communities."

A PDF version of the manual is available for download through jibc.ca.

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Program	Campus
Transportation trades Tuesday, Mar. 27 & Apr. 3, 11 a.m. – lobby, building B	Broadway
Addiction counselling skills & Community counselling skills Tuesday, Mar. 27, 6:30 p.m. – room 425 Wednesday, Apr. 4, 5:30 p.m. – room 420	Downtown Downtown
Interpreting Wednesday, Mar. 28, 5:30 p.m. – room 420	Downtown
Volunteer for ESL Homefront Thursday, Mar. 29, 6:45 p.m. – room 3709	Broadway
Music Friday, Mar. 30, 12:30 p.m. – room 1228B	Broadway
Teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) Tuesday, Apr. 3, noon – room 518	Downtown
Dental technician Wednesday, Apr. 4, 9:30 a.m. – room 332	Downtown
English as a second language (ESL) Wednesday, Apr. 4, 10 a.m. – room 5025	Broadway
Office administration Wednesday, Apr. 4, 5:30 p.m. – room 240	Downtown
American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf studies Wednesday, Apr. 4, 6 p.m. – room 2555	Broadway

Downtown campus is located at 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton, two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station.

Broadway campus is located at 1155 East Broadway, one block west of Clark Drive and across from VCC/Clark SkyTrain station.

Visit **vcc.ca** or call **604.871.7000**.

View all VCC Info sessions and tours

vcc.ca

Vancouver Community College

Beedie School has new designation

DANIEL HENDRIKSEN
For Metro

The Beedie School of Business (BSB) at Simon Fraser University has created a new designation for their graduate finance degree.

The program is now called Master of Science in Finance due to its evolution and increased popularity. The graduate finance program has seen a spike in applications from students from all over the world.

"The 2008 financial crisis revealed the inadequacy of conventional wisdom pertaining to risk and investment management. It's clear that more sophisticated tools grounded in reality, rather than analytical convenience, are required," said Andrey Pavlov, associate professor of finance in a news release.

Aboriginal woman first to earn Ph.D in Criminology

Kwantlen Polytechnic University instructor Lisa Monchalin has a laundry list of amazing achievements, but this past December she accomplished something that no other Aboriginal woman in Canada has done before.

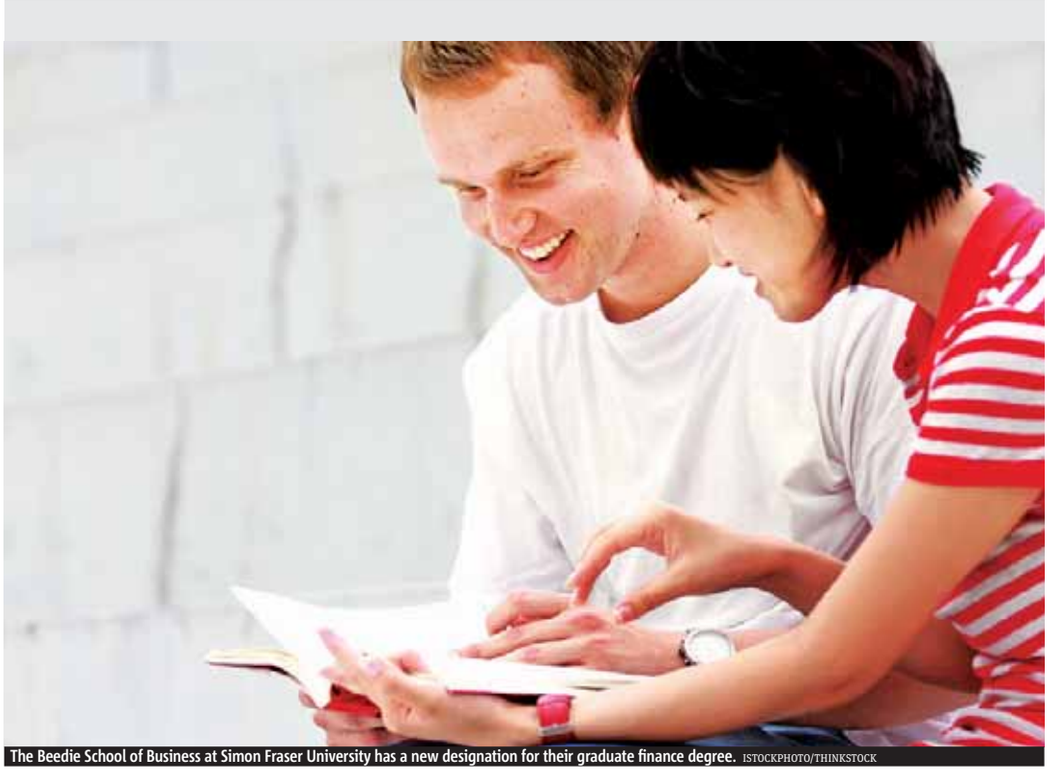
Monchalin obtained her Ph.D in Criminology at the University of Ottawa, making her the first woman of Aboriginal descent to do so. But big accomplishments are nothing new for the talented speaker and instructor. She has even developed an Aboriginal-specific criminology course that she will teach this coming fall.

"My Ph.D thesis was a case study done in Winnipeg on Aboriginal crime prevention," Monchalin said in a press release.

"Fuelled by various personal experiences and family history, I am very passionate about reducing crime affecting my people. The thesis provided practical solutions and concrete recommendations."

According to Kwantlen president John McKendry, Monchalin is a perfect example of the type of individual they want teaching at their school.

"We are very fortunate to have someone with Lisa's background, education and commitment to the community as a faculty member," said McKendry.



The Beedie School of Business at Simon Fraser University has a new designation for their graduate finance degree. ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

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Saturday, April 14th, 2012
1:30 - 3:00 pm & 3:30 - 5 pm
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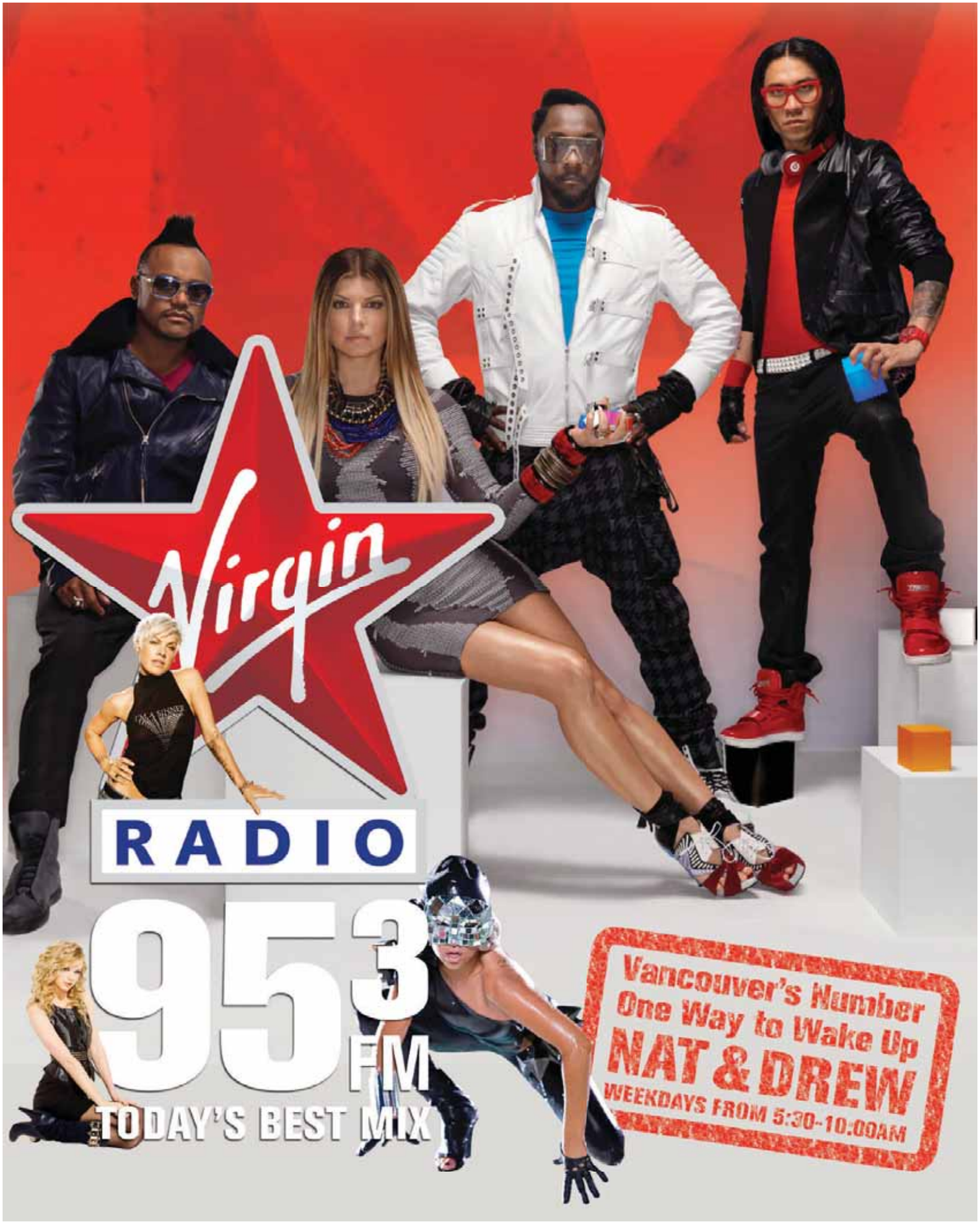
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4 SPORTS

Canucks lose a Sedin

NHL. Club quiet on when Daniel Sedin may return from injury

Vancouver Canucks coach Alain Vigneault confirmed Monday that forward Daniel Sedin has a concussion.

But the NHL club continued to stay mum on the left winger's condition, or possible return before the playoffs.

"He's got a concussion, and when we have something more to say, we'll say it," said Vigneault ahead of Vancouver's game against Los Angeles. "We're just going to follow the (concussion) protocol, and when we have more, we'll share it with you."

Sedin was sidelined last Wednesday by an elbow to the head from Chicago Blackhawks defenceman Duncan Keith that resulted in a five-game suspension.

The Canuck's condition has been a hot topic of discussion since he was hurt, but Vigneault's comments marked the team's first public confirmation of his injury.

Henrik Sedin says the league should change its rules to allow for the assessment of tougher in-game punishment against an offender's team.

"On the ice, the referees should have an easier time giving out a few more minutes for the dangerous hits, I think — elbows, boarding, charging and that kind of stuff," said Henrik. "Players are going to respect that more, maybe, than a one- or two-game suspension, because if you hurt your team in a game and you lose because of a stupid play, that's going to hurt more."

Keith's lack of previous suspensions influenced the length of the suspension handed down by league chief disciplinarian Brendan Shanahan. Henrik said the length of the suspension does not matter.

"It's about respecting other players, and I hope (Keith) learns something from it — and it doesn't happen again," he said.

The Canucks have shown more spark since Daniel was hurt. But Vigneault said the injury has not served as more inspiration for his players.

"That was a very unfortunate incident, a real cheap shot in the game, and losing our top player is not something that we need to come together as a group," said Vigneault. "But it did happen, we have to deal with it, and that's what we're trying to do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

History revisited

Daniel Sedin.
DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

This marks the second time that the Sedin twins have been separated for a potentially long period on the ice.

- In 2009-10, Daniel missed 18 consecutive games with a fractured foot suffered while blocking a shot. He also sat out a game later that season.
- But Henrik still managed to produce points in his absence and went on to win the scoring title, before his brother surpassed him for the honours last season.

Final Four

Vegas gives the odds to Wildcats

Sin City casinos are sticking with Kentucky and Ohio State as Final Four favourites and still think the Wildcats have by far the best shot of winning the NCAA title. Odds put out by Nevada casinos after the matchups were set show they think Kentucky — the No. 1 seed overall in the tournament — has a 52 per cent shot at the title despite needing to win two more games, gambling expert RJ Bell of pregame.com told The Associated Press. Casinos believe Ohio State has a 25 per cent chance, Kansas a 15 per cent chance and Louisville an eight per cent chance, Bell said. Kentucky meets Louisville and Kansas plays Ohio State on Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Payton could 'probably' coach during appeal

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell might allow Sean Payton to coach the Saints while he appeals his season-long suspension for his role in the team's bounties program. "I said in a letter they have to appeal by April 2, I believe," Goodell said Monday at the owners' meetings in Palm Beach, Fla. "If he decides to appeal, I probably will allow him to continue and I would expedite the hearing and I would expedite my decision." Payton's agent, Donald Yee, said "no decisions have been made about an appeal" by his client.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Malhotra scores, Luongo does the rest

Manny Malhotra celebrates his game-winning goal Monday night in Vancouver's 1-0 win over Los Angeles at Rogers Arena. Roberto Luongo made 37 saves for his fourth shutout of the season as the Canucks (46-21-9) cracked the 100-point barrier for the fourth straight season and moved within two points of Western Conference-leading St. Louis. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Marcus Haber reacts after Cuba's late goal on Monday in Nashville, Tenn.
MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer. Canada stunned late by Cubans

Canada moved on to the semifinals at the CONCACAF men's soccer Olympic qualifying tournament on Monday, but a goal conceded in injury time could derail its journey to the 2012 London Games.

With Canada seemingly headed for victory and a first-place finish in Group A, Cuba's Maykel Reyes scored in the first minute of added time to force a 1-1 draw.

Evan James had given Canada a 1-0 lead in the first half.

Instead of advancing to play the second-place team in Group B, Canada will likely have to play the powerful Mexicans in the semifinals. Only the two tournament finalists advance to the Olympics.

"The players are very upset right now," said Canadian manager Tony Fonseca. "Our focus is to recover and to prepare for semifinal."

Canada finished with five points in three games and a goal differential of plus-2.

With two points in six games and a goal differential of plus-9, Mexico is all but assured to be Canada's opponent in the next round.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

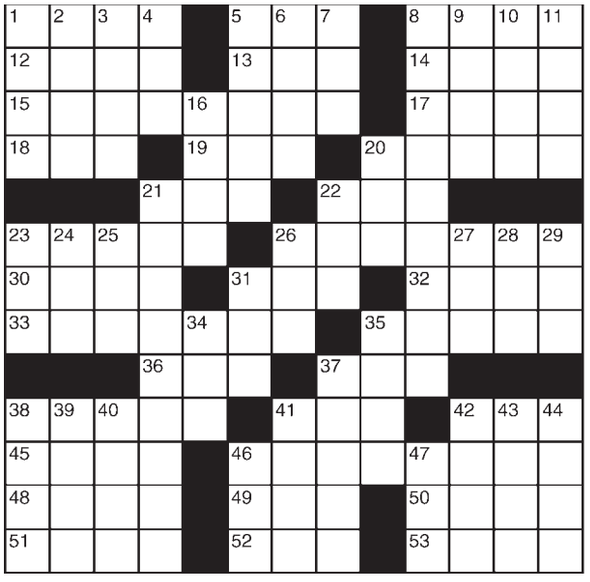
U.S. eliminated

Jaime Alas scored in stoppage time as El Salvador ousted the United States from Olympic qualifying Monday with a 3-3 draw.

- The Americans had to win to reach Saturday's semifinals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crossword



Across

1 Sweater eater
5 Sinful
8 Robbers' foes
12 Emanation
13 Leading lady
14 Picnic hamperer
15 Medieval launcher
17 "Beetle Bailey" dog
18 Superlative suffix
19 De-pressed
20 "Nonsense!"
21 Upper limit
22 Egos' counterparts
23 Abrasive powder
26 Belgian —
30 Long car
31 Moving vehicle
32 Greek vowel
33 Befuddle
35 Church musicmaker
36 Chicago team, for short
37 Mimic
38 Off-spring
41 Winter ailment
42 Frequently, in verse
45 Corporate symbol
46 Goalpost piece
48 PC maker
49 Clumsy sort
50 Long sandwich
51 Lincoln in-law
52 Mel of Cooperstown
53 Watched

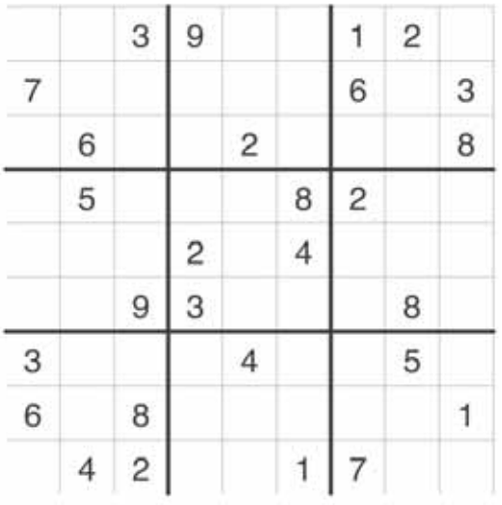
Down

1 Spiked club
2 Not just mine
3 Race-horse's gait
4 Owns
5 Jazz style
6 Acknowledge
7 Morning moisture
8 Rapid exchange of words
9 Inauguration recitation
10 Pocket bread
11 Frosty's makeup
16 Do in
20 Sharable file
21 Arthur Wynne creation
22 Author Fleming
23 Sprite
24 Wire measure
25 Ostrich's cousin
26 1940s headline word
27 Journal
28 Schedule abbr.
29 — Diego
31 Irritate
34 Heavy weight
35 Piece of work
37 Soaring
38 Bed-frame piece
39 Somewhat, to the maestro
40 Worn
41 "Animal House" house
42 Do as you're told
43 Passenger's payment
44 Walked (on)
46 Bill and —
47 That woman

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

Sudoku



How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

Send a kiss

- **To Music.** if not for music, and its healing purposes as well as other methods. Music is by far the best route. To experiencing new magic at new beginnings, to knowing what it feels like in leaving. To each and every day — music is by far the best medicine for the soul besides praying to a higher power! good night everyone and hug someone it feels good, or smile — that feels good too. if all alone, you're not completely all alone! Wow, that was the longest, darkest tunnel ever crawled thru! There is the light! No, am not paying attention to past posts! am doing own thing.....Rock n Roll. From Music Lover
- **Wish/Wash.** You can hold your convictions but you know that when you see me next, you're going to shatter. From True/Steady
- **You Missed.** You'll get all you want if you go after it again. From Will
- **Josh's friend.** You sound cute! Tell Josh that if I wasn't hopelessly in love with him, I might date you! Tell 'em my phone number is listed under "interests" on LinkedIn. From Julie

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Think about your next move, but don't make it yet.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Stay calm and refuse to panic. It may appear as if your world is being turned upside down but you should know by now that appearances are often deceptive.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Someone who does not share your open and optimistic way of looking at the world will challenge your viewpoint today, but you don't have to prove anything to anyone.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Start laying the groundwork for your future success.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. So many changes are happening in your world that you can, if you wish, make a few major changes of your own.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Make a conscious effort to check the small print of everything you are working on today, especially if there is money involved.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Do you know what you want? And do you believe you are capable of getting it? If the answer to both those questions is "yes" then you will begin to experience real success.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. It's time to start tackling all those things you have been avoiding.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. If you need to say something of a delicate nature to a friend or family member, now is the time to speak up.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You may feel rather left out of things at the moment but in a way that's a good thing because it gives you time to think.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Treat yourself to some quiet "me time" away from the rat race. You've earned it.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. What other people see as a crisis doesn't bother you in the slightest. Why? Because you can see that, in the greater scheme of things, it is of no real importance. SALLY BROMPTON

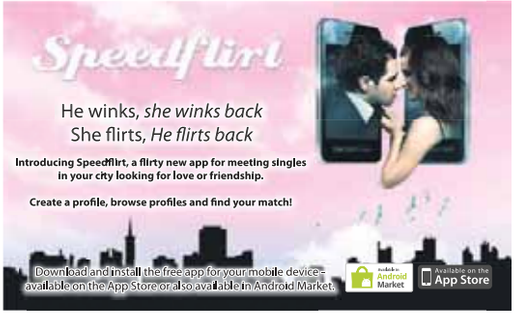
Caption Contest

"I've heard winning by a noise ... but never a toe!!"
Nancy
VINCENT THIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in yesterday's Metro.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